

MINUTES

BOARD MEETING

**INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING PERSONNEL STANDARDS &
EDUCATION**

**WAYNE TWP FIRE HEADQUARTERS
700 N HIGH SCHOOL RD
INDIANAPOLIS IN 46214**

**10:00 AM
MAY 16, 2005**

- A. BOARD MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
Meeting called to order at 10 AM.

- B. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT

**Roger Johnson (10:25)
Patrick Donoghue
Charles (Don) Hall
Thomas Hanify
Jack Kerney Sr.
Jerry Nulliner
Darrick Scott
Mike Garvey (in for Eric Dietz)**

ABSENT

**Paul Covington
Tom Loraine
Bernice Clark**

- C. MINUTES FROM APRIL 4, 2005 BOARD MEETING &
STATISTICAL REPORT.**

**Darrick Scott made a motion to approve as printed and distributed.
Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.**

- D. VARIANCES; HEARINGS AND APPEALS**

**a) Raymond Miller requests reciprocity for FO 1, 655
IAC 1-2.1-8, FO 2, 655 IAC 1-2.1-9, FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 and
Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19 based on Michigan certifications and**

college classes and other courses. Staff has no recommendation. There is no record of Firefighter certification in Indiana.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table this variance until further documentation was received. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed. Board would like to see documentation of Indiana certification.

b) Janis “John” Smits is requesting reciprocity for FF 1, 655 IAC 1-2.1-4, FF 2 655 IAC 1-2.1-5, FO 1, 655 IAC 1-2.1-8, FO 2, 655 IAC 1-2.1-9, FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10, Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19, Inspector I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-12, Hazmat Awareness 655 IAC -1-2.1-24, and Hazmat Operations 655 IAC 1-2.1-24-1. based on Michigan certification. Staff recommends approval.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed.

c) Matt E. Wells currently holds a FO 1 certification. He requests a variance to 655 IAC 1-2.1-9, FO 2, on the basis of an A.S. Degree with a major in Fire Science. He also requests FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10, based on A.S. Degree with a major in Fire Science. Transcripts enclosed. Staff recommends approval of FO2 only.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table until Mr. Wells completed the FO 2 written/practical test. Then reapply variance for FO 3. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

d) Clinton Nelson request reciprocity for Hazmat Technician based on Transportation Tech Center Inc. Certificate.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to table for further information. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

e) Eric Flory requests variance for Mandatory Training. 655 IAC 1-3-5.

Darrick Scott made a motion to approve. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

f) Neville Vaughan requests a variance 655 IAC 1-2.1-10, Fire Officer 3. based on a Degree in Public Safety from Ivy Tech.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

g) John Plan requests a variance for PIO 655 IAC 1-2.1-93. Based on course completion certification.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to table until further information is received. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

h) Chad Hoey requests reciprocity for Hazmat Technician 655 IAC 1-2.1-24-2.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table until further information received. Seconded by Charles Hall. Motion passed.

i) Ryan Jon Murchek is requesting reciprocity for FF ½ based on Texas A & M certifications and course completions.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Jerry Nulliner seconded. Motion passed.

j) Kevin Armstrong is requesting a variance for 655 IAC 1-1-13. Would like to be able for Instructor I to be lead evaluator for Mandatory Training.

Darrick Scott made a motion of deny. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed. An individual may apply but not a blanket appeal for the department.

k) Richard Purvis is requesting variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19. Certification lapsed.

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Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny, pending results of Instructor update test. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed.

l) David Frederick is requesting variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19. Certification lapsed.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny, pending results of Instructor update test. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed.

m) David Facer is requesting variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19. Firefighter 2 and PI.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny, pending results of Instructor update test. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed.

- n) Paul Colvin is requesting variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to deny, pending results of Instructor update test. Darrick Scott seconded. Motion passed.

- o) Darrick Scott requests a variance for FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10.

Jerry Nulliner made a motion to approve. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

- p) Matthew Bennet request variance for FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10. And FO 4, 655 IAC 1-2.1-11. Staff recommends approve for FO 3 only.

Darrick Scott made a motion to approve FO 3, and to deny FO 4. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

- q) Edward King requests a variance for FO 3.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

- r) Derek Warnke request a reciprocity for FF1, 655 IAC 1-1.1-4 and FF2, 655 IAC 1-2.1-5. from the State of Michigan.

Darrick Scott made a motion to approve. Roger Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

- s) Bryan Peterson requesting variance for Instructor I, 655 IAC 1-2.1-19. Pending from March meeting for a copy of Primary Instructor cert.

Darrick Scott made a motion to pass pending results of Instructor update test. Charles Hall seconded. Motion passed.

Patrick Donoghue brought attention to the FO 3 packet of practical skills to the forefront for discussion. We need evaluate these before we can go any further.

Tom Hanify motion to approve for FO 3 skills test. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

Maynard Masters in the discussion asked about availability of books for test questions. Must be on open market. Cannot be from a private individual. IFSTA

has a Fire Chief manual that covers Fire Office 3 and 4. Availability of curriculum is being questioned from private individual. Jerry Nulliner states that the IFSTA book is not available at this time. PTS is going to be coming out with a new bank for this certification.

Tom Hanify made a motion to table this document until Paul Covington returns for next month meeting. Jack Kerney seconded motion. Motion passed.

The following individuals,

Jeffrey Quinn; Kenneth Foster; Thomas Babbitt; Robert Lamprecht; Jay Michael; Thomas Fieffer II; Mike Orlich; Jason Bulta; David Kloss; Chad Crace; Aaron Surber; Jason Werle; Joseph Kruzan; David Brinneman and Sean Canto requests variance for FO 3, 655 IAC 1-2.1-10 and 655 IAC 1-1-13 (a)(2) specialty classification in the course being evaluated.

Based on the FO 3 class on May 1, 2005, Darrick Scott made a motion to approve this class. Jack Kerney seconded. Motion passed.

ii) Request for oral exam for FF ½. 655 IAC 1-1-12;

1. Justin Evans requests oral exam.
2. Jim Bob Weber request oral exam.

Jack Kerney made a motion to approve. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

E. STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT – ROGER JOHNSON

Over the weekend we address the Firefighter Union annual conference in Jeffersonville. One of the main areas of discussion was where the state of Indiana stands in the interest of training. The focus in this administration is to come up with a reasonable plan for training in Fire and Emergency services. Indiana is the only state in the Midwest that does not offer training to their firefighters. All we have done in years is certify. We have offered no training. We will respond to what the fire service wants. The International Airport, Delaware County in Muncie Ivy Tech; Ivy Tech in general; Purdue University, Monroe County in Bloomington and Indiana University; Wayne Twp; Central Nine in Johnson County; Hamilton County wants to partner with the state in from scratch creating a training center including overnight facilities for fire and emergency services and others are coming forward saying that they would like to be a

participant. The challenge now is for the fire service to decide what we want. I would like to have a polling of the commission today. The question is this: Should the state of Indiana deliver training to the fire service or should we continue as we are and support fire schools and independent efforts throughout the state. Your input would be welcome. The support has been for state supported training. Let me go back to the question. Would this board care to give an opinion on where we are right now, and are we doing the right thing by trying to come up with a plan for training for the state of Indiana.

Jack Kerney: Yes I think we should pursue it. I'm in favor of it. I think it should be for advanced training. For those that want the basic training I think it should be available on the state level. But how we go about doing it is the thing that is up in the air and that is what I'm concerned about. # 1 cost and how are we going to do it. But yes, I think we should move forward.

Tom Hanify: Just for the record, I am lined up with Jack, straight up and down. There is now anything he said that I disagree with. We should continue to pursue the course that we are on. Discovering it. Once we come up with conclusions, I know everybody wants input. The other thing is Mr. Chairman, I think this would be a great place to talk about it, but we are a little bit shy of a few board members, I would like to see us advertise this and make this into an agenda item for this board and whether we come up with a consensus or not but have full discussion on it and really dedicate some time to it.

Pat Donoghue: you would like to come up with an official recommendation from the board?

Tom Hanify: Well, yes consider a recommendation from the board, but I'm with Jack. There's a lot of questions and I don't want to tie peoples hands saying they have to go to wherever because I don't think that is conducive to the fire service in Indiana, but options, funding, subsidies, those are the things that I think we should pursue.

Charles Hall; Marshal, whatever happened to the proposal for Grissom?

Marshal: Grissom and the Law Enforcement Academy both have proposals in right now. Grissom has overnight facilities and Indiana Law Enforcement Academy has offered us 168 acres to construct a facility also. Like I said, the proposals are still coming in.

Darrick Scott: I know we work on central locations as a board, I am in favor of a central location under one command and control. I don't

have a problem with regional, maybe during certain dates like the fire schools. Maybe do a spring, fall deal either north, central or Divide them up like that but as far as regional centers all the time, I have some concerns with it.

Jerry Nulliner: I will agree with everything everybody is saying. I have been setting on one of the committees with John Buckman and I believe several of these issues that have been brought up in that group and I think the progress we are making on this needs to slow down, because of the fact we were going to be making decisions just to be making decisions, and I think we needed to slow down so that we could adequately review these process. But I still think that the opportunity still needs to be there for people to go to the state facility, a state academy or have a state instructor come in and be able to do those classes. Whether we do the Firefighter 1 and 2, to have this available. If people can go to the fire academy and take the firefighter 1½, I think that would be beneficial for those organizations that have the capability for sending people to that facility.

Marshal: I think that the idea that Jerry mentioned, it that making sure we do not build a white elephant. We do not want to go off in a direction that's not going to be what the fire service needs and what the fire service desires. It is so important. I have one major obstacle. That is the Governor. I have asked the leadership of the organization representing the fire service in the state, and that is the Indiana Volunteers, the Union, the Instructors, the Chiefs to stop forth with me to meet with the governor. Explain to the governor that we the fire service, and you the fire service don't feel like he is not actively pursuing this. He wanted to cut the ribbon during the FDIC. He is ready to start. The pressure that he has put on his staff is pretty immense. They are fear full that the fire service might think that he is not interested in continuing with his campaign promise. He is going to continue that promise. No matter what direction we go, the governor is solidly behind what we want to do. What we need to do now is to explain to the governor and his staff, that we are ok to slow down.

Tom Hanify; I would like to have this discussion to see if we can take a group standing. I would also like to advertise this as part of the agenda having this discussion. Also, part of this discussion would be to ask the Marshal to let us come back and look at the recommendations before they go any further. Why not have a formal meeting and let all

of us come in and actually look at the recommendation before they get absolutely beyond the point of no return.

A general discussion took place at this time with the following recommendations:

The next meeting for the Board, is at the IVFA Conference . This is the most heavily attended. This would be a good time to get the input from the most. That would be a good topic to have just for general input for the board. Encourage as many as possible to attend this meeting.

Marshal: We need to show our solidarity on this subject.

F. INDIANA DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INSTITUTE OF TRAINING REPORT –

No report at this time.

G. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS – ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE.

No report at this time.

H. OLD BUSINESS

a) LSA Doc #04-138 effective date 5-13-05. – Mara Snyder.

The new rules became effective May 13, 2005

b) LSA Doc. #04-297 – NIMS certification; public hearing on 6/16

Public Hearing is on June 16, 2005.

Warren Todd passed out a hand out NIMS-compliant ISC training guidelines now available on line.

**c) Training Task Force – Randy Brown
no report**

d) ERG books used with all written tests.

**Jim Schneider and Randy Wood will look at the test available to see what tests they are needed on.
Table until June meeting**

- e) Privacy act vs pass/fail to Instructors of class.**

Mara: The board needs to interpret the statute. Let's just make it clear and then we can be done with it.

- f) Students with same test scores.
Table until Paul Covington returns. Paul was satisfied with is investigation. We will table until Paul is back.**
- g) FO 3 test bank validation
Table until Paul Covington returns.**

I. NEW BUSINESS

- a) Re-establish task force – Paul Covington**

What Paul wants to do is reestablish the task forces to validate the test banks.

- b) Proposed amendments to 655 IAC 1 – administrative policies and procedures.**

We need to meet and establish clear guidelines and any changes. I have published the notice of intent. It will come out in the June register. One of the concerns is the age limit. We need to see what we can do to accommodate the cadet programs. The Instructor update test; passing is 100% now. This is to high. Passing should be 90% even though it is an open book test.

- c) Testing banks, PTS, Mara Snyder**

Mara Snyder- I cannot locate a contract that we have with PTS. The test banks are in a mess, spelling errors, no correct answers, crediting the wrong answers, more than one correct answer. There are other test banks out there.

- d) Discussion of new certifications & testing**

I have a list of certifications that are not available at this time. I think we need to form a task force to take care of this. All

certifications can be granted by variances. This is a reminder that this needs to be taken care of.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:45